

## NH Advisory Committee on Fire Protection Meeting Minutes March 7, 2007

Members in Attendance: Lawrence Thibodeau, Len Daniels, Chris Burns, Steve Mango, John Mooney, Gerry McCarthy, and Robert Musil

Absent were: Richard Driscoll, Richard Giguere.

Serving as liaison to the State Fire Marshal's Office was Deputy State Fire Marshal Robert Farley

The following visitors were also in attendance in the gallery: Bruce Theriault, Bill Fraser, Steven Rancourt, Don Mendzela, Joe Casey, Bob Eldridge, Mark Hilbert, Mark Gemas

Chairman Thibodeau opened the meeting at approximately 0920 hours and asked all members to review the partial draft minutes of the January meeting. Some additions to the minutes were made by Deputy Farley from the recording. Deputy Farley agreed to take the minutes for the current meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Mooney and seconded by Mr. Burns to accept the partial minutes.

Chairman Thibodeau asked for a report of the sub-committee meeting that was held on March 6<sup>th</sup>. Deputy Farley asked the chairman if the committee could take action on the changes to the rules to date so that corrections made at today's meeting would not get mixed up with previous changes. Chairman Thibodeau consented and the discussion continued on the pending changes. Chairman Thibodeau explained to the committee that changes marked in the red would change to black if adopted.

Changes were then gone over by the committee one by one. Deputy Farley stated that there might be some confusion by the fact that the rules state all NFPA standards instead of the specific NFPA standards. Chairman Thibodeau will add the NFPA standards that have to do with the installation of sprinkler systems. A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Burns to accept the changes to the rules as proposed.

Mr. Burns started by summarizing the sub-committee meeting that was held to discuss the curriculum. Mr. Mango also contributed to the summary. A general consensus had been reached between the ECBA and the NHAA relative to the criteria and the number of hours. Mr. Mango added that there was some more work to do to finalize the submission.

Deputy Farley asked about a replacement to 1204.02 (7) (b) Mr. Mango explained where the changes are supposed to start. After some discussion, Mr. Mango spoke about the need to possibly change the statute to remove the word "national" relative to the training courses.

Mr. McCarthy asked about the inclusive nature of 1204.02 (7) (a) and (b). He asked about whether an apprentice covered under 1204.02 (7) (b) would be able to run the primary power circuit. Mr. Mango and Chief Hilbert explained that the certification

program would not affect the licensing requirement covered under RSA 319-C. Chief Hilbert suggested that some additional language in the definition section would be helpful to clarify what part of a fire alarm system would be covered under these rules. There was some discussion in the committee about the current definition and the terminology using the wording “low voltage”.

Mr. Daniels suggested that the language in 1204.02 (7) (a) should be changed as it appeared to be too restrictive for an apprentice since it also requires the 2000 hours of experience. The sub-committee will work on the wording.

The discussion then continued on the proposed language changes on 1204.02 (8) for a service technician. Mr. Mango explained the fact that the two thousand hours in 1204.02 (8) (b) was in addition to the 2000 hours mentioned in 1204.02 (7). Mr. Mango offered a change to insert the phrase , “or electrical systems industry” or similar language concurrent with RSA 319-C

Mr. Burns and Mr. Mango offered that the list outlined in 1204.02 (8) (c) (1) through (5) may have some additions and/or corrections to it.

Deputy Farley asked about 1204.02.(8)(c)(4) and any additional titles that might be needed to specifically identify the curriculum. There was some discussion to add the phrase “or greater” to the section of rules relative to NICET certifications since they are always accumulative or successive. Corrections were made to the rest of the document regarding NICET certifications.

Mr. Thibodeau asked to be excused from the meeting and Mr. Mooney assumed the chair of the meeting. Mr. Mooney asked if the sub-committee had any further to report and there was nothing left.

A summary of what the committee needs to work on for upcoming meetings. Deputy Farley summarized a few items that need more work. They were the terms of a certification, which was suggested to be three years, continuing education, acceptance and approval of training programs and fees.

Mr. Mango asked Deputy Farley about any thoughts about fees. Deputy Farley stated that the only parameter at this point was the ceiling of \$200. There was some discussion about the 125% funding requirement of the program. Deputy Farley stated that the fees would be lumped into the entire program and not pro-rated by type of endorsement. He stated that there currently is not a plan to add a lot of staff to handle this program, but he added that there were not a lot of staff hanging around waiting for something to do.

Mr. Daniels suggested that the individual certification be a three-year term and the company certificate stay as a one-year certificate. A motion was made Mr. Daniels and seconded by Mr. Mango to change 1205.05 (b) to a period of three years. The motion passed.

There was a discussion on continuing education programs and training program acceptance. Deputy Farley stated that there is not anything in the rules currently to provide for the acceptance of any training programs. Deputy Farley agreed to share what the Heating Technician draft rules are using.

Chief Hilbert offered some suggestions and assistance with helping to develop language for accepting programs. Mr. Daniels requested that each training curriculum include some familiarization on NFPA 72.

Chairman Mooney asked if there were any issues with definitions that need to be addressed. Deputy Farley stated that JLCAR will scrutinize the rules heavily. There was some more discussion on the definitions.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Daniels to strike the last phrase in 1202.06. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Daniels to insert the word “equipment” in the definition of 1202.06. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Burns to insert the phrase “Fire Alarm and Detection Systems” in 1202.09. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Daniels to add the phrase “Fire Protection Equipment Technician” to 1204.02 (a)(4) and (5). The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Daniels to amend the original motion, which also carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Mango and seconded by Mr. Burns to remove the word “sells” in 1202.16. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Daniels and seconded by Mr. Mango to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the committee

Robert B. Farley  
Staff Liaison